

RAILROAD TO SEACOAST SURE TO BE BUILT

**Vanderbilt and Davis-Elkins Interests
Will Build Big New Trunk Line
From Pittsburg to Newport News
by Way of West Virginia--Road
Has Been Financed.**

The Vanderbilt control of the Little Kanawha syndicate means the construction and operation of a great trunk line from Pittsburg to Newport News by way of West Virginia. Arrangements have already been made with former Senator Henry G. Davis and Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, owners of the Coal & Coke railroad and of 200,000 acres of fine West Virginia coal along its route and with the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad, dominated by the Vanderbilts, for a thorough line to Newport News. This will give the Vanderbilt-Ramsey syndicate the shortest and best route to that important exporting Atlantic port and will give the Vanderbilts their long sought outlet to the sea. Construction will begin early this fall.

Negotiations begun in Pittsburg continued at the Holland House in New York, with the result that papers comprising a tentative agreement were signed.

William K. Vanderbilt confirmed the temporary agreement by cable from Europe. All the funds necessary for the building of the road to Tidewater have been assured.

The route of the new trunk line will be by way of the Greene County and Buckhannon and Northern railroads to a connection at Elkins, with the Coal and Coke railroad of the Davis-Elkins interests. The aim of Senator Davis in building this road was to open the great coal tracts extending through the mountains from Elkins to Charleston, about 180 miles.

This road now has in operation at its upper or eastern end about 25 miles of track from Leiter to Sago on the Buckhannon river, and at its lower or western end 92 miles from Charleston to Gassaway. The line between Sago and Gassaway is now under construction and the expectation is that the whole road will be completed and in operation this year. It is not the intention to follow the Coal and Coke railroad to its southern terminus, but to strike off to the southeast and reach the Chesapeake and Ohio at or near Staunton, Va., and continue over that road with a traffic arrangement to which consent is said to have already been given.

It is said that to Fairmont alone the new seaboard line will be 60 miles shorter than the Baltimore & Ohio, and it will be the shortest and best route to the sea, being a little shorter than the Pennsylvania to New York.

The road will place Pittsburg in communication with one of the greatest exporting ports on the Atlantic; will give it a direct outlet to the south; will open immense coal fields for shipment both north and south, and will open important sections of West Virginia with Pittsburg and the seacoast.

From Elkins the road will cross Randolph county and strike Pendleton near the head of Seneca creek, and will cross Pendleton to Harrisonburg, Va., after leaving the Coal & Iron road (already in operation) southeast of Elkins, it will cross Rich mountains above John Armistead's, will pass down Dry Fork Cheat a mile and a half to the mouth of Gandy; it will pass up Summerfield's run and will cross the Allegheny mountains by a short cut at the head of Seneca creek; it will pass down that stream to its mouth; down North Fork to the cave; tunnel under North Fork mountain to the Smoke Holes; will ascend the South Branch to Upper Tract; will cross South Fork mountain at Robert Eyer's farm, passing by way of Brandywine to the South Fork. A tunnel will pierce the Shenandoah mountains, and the road will descend Skidmore Fork by way of Rawley Springs, and thence to Harrisonburg.

Noble Son born

By Associated Press.
London, Eng., July 12.—The Princess of Wales safely delivered a son this morning.

WEDDING OCCURS AT ADAMSTON

Miss Florence Weekley and Mr. William McClung were united in marriage at the parsonage of the Adamston United Brethren church by Rev. S. A. Shanabarger Tuesday evening at eight o'clock. The wedding was a quiet one and was attended only by a few intimate friends. Mr. McClung is an experienced iron moulder and is employed in this city where he and his bride will make their residence.

THE COWBOYS AT LOST CREEK

Texas Bill's Wild West show arrived at Lost Creek from Sutton on the two o'clock train this afternoon and will give an exhibition there tonight. The arrival of the aggregation attracted much attention because of the notoriety given it by the railroad battle at Cowan on Sunday evening and it is expected that many persons will come from miles around to attend the performance.

The report reached here last night that the cowboys intimidated the citizens of Sutton yesterday by a fusillade from firearms in the street and that two had been arrested and fined, but there appears to have been no trouble there to amount to anything. The cowboy in the hospital at Cowan who was shot through the lung has succumbed to his injuries, making three dead in all as the result of the battle.

CASHIER STOLE MUCH MORE

By Associated Press.
Richmond, Ind., July 12.—Claims are made today that the value of bonds and securities taken by John Bowman, cashier of the defunct Commercial Bank at Hagerstown, will exceed the first estimates. A prediction on good authority is made that many disclosures of losses are still forthcoming.

JUDGE GROSSCUP ADDRESSES THE LAWYERS

By Associated Press.
Put In Bay, O., July 12.—The State Bar Association began its session here today. An address was delivered by Judge Grosscup, of the United States Court, of Chicago.

HEAT VICTIMS ARE MANY

By Associated Press.
New York, July 12.—Five deaths and many prostrations from intense heat were reported from Brooklyn today, making a total of ten deaths for the early part of the day. One of the Brooklyn victims, Daniel McCarthy, drank carbolic acid while insane from heat and died instantly. Another, John S. Haldebrand, a painter, was overcome while working on staging and fell fifteen feet to the ground. His neck was broken.

M. M. Carr's excursion tour to Elberton, Ga., scheduled for tonight, has been indefinitely postponed. Several desire to take the trip but are busy harvesting at this time and could not go.

JOHN A. BLAKE DIES SUDDENLY

John A. Blake died suddenly at his home, 247 Mulberry street, Wednesday morning about three o'clock. For the preceding three days Mr. Blake had been complaining of an illness affecting his stomach. Sunday evening he was quite sick but he recovered. The next day he was again quite ill and the physician called to attend him diagnosed his illness as indigestion. Tuesday he had recovered sufficiently to arise from his bed and take up his regular duties but later in the day he felt worse and returned to his home. That evening before retiring he told his family he was a great deal better. At three o'clock in the morning while in bed Mr. Blake was seized with severe pains and called his wife. She attended him and he seemed to grow better. A few moments later he apparently fell into a slumber but it was discovered that he was dying and efforts to arouse him proved of no avail.

The deceased was sixty-six years of age. For the past two years he had been employed as one of the local agents for the Clarksburg branch of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Prior to his residence in Clarksburg Mr. Blake resided at Berryville, Va., and also at Charles Town, W. Va. Surviving him are his wife, two sons, Charles Blake and Haward Blake, and one sister living in Berryville. The younger son, Howard was in Dawson, Pa. at the time of his father's death. He arrived in the city from that place Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Blake was a good citizen with a large circle of friends who held him in high regard all of whom are pained at his death.

The remains will be taken to Berryville, Va., and the funeral and burial will occur there Thursday.

GRAND OFFICERS OF THE ELKS

Buffalo, N. Y., July 12.—The following grand officers were elected at the annual reunion of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks:

Grand Exalted Ruler—Robert W. Brown, of Louisville, Ky.
Grand Esteemed Leading Knight—C. F. Tomlinson, Winston, N. C.
Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight—Chas. W. Kaufman, Hoboken, N. J.
Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight—Edward McLaughlin, Boston, Mass.
Grand Secretary—Fred C. Robinson, Dubuque, Iowa.
Grand Treasurer—John K. Tener, Charleroi, Pa.
Grand Tiler—W. W. McClelland, Pittsburg, Pa.

Grand Trustee (long term)—Jno. D. O'Shea, Lynn, Mass.
Grand Trustee (short term)—Dr. W. H. Haviland, Buffalo, Mont.

The parade, notwithstanding the early rains, was a most picturesque affair owing to the unique designs in costumes and floats. It is estimated that fifty thousand visitors are in the city. The streets are lined with spectators.

CONTEMPT CHARGE IS DROPPED

Cincinnati, O., July 12.—Judge Cochran, of the United States Court, after a telephone talk with the district attorney at Covington today directed that the charge of contempt against Mayor Helmbold, of Newport, Ky., in connection with placing Caleb Powers in the Newport jail be dropped. The charge of resisting an officer will be pushed.

Girl Arrives

Mr. and Mrs. Charles McBride, of East Pike street, are the happy parents of a bouncing baby girl, who made her appearance at their home Wednesday morning. The new arrival tipped the beams at thirteen pounds.

Waldo Sick

Lorenzo D. Waldo, commonly known as "Bob," is critically ill in the City hospital of kidney trouble and it was reported Wednesday morning that he was dead. Inquiry at the hospital this afternoon results in the information that his condition is slightly improved. He has been ailing several months.

BAPTIST COMMITTEE MEETING

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF WEST VIRGINIA GENERAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MEETS IN QUARTERLY SESSION.

BOARD DECLARES TIME IS RIPE FOR APPOINTMENT OF ONE OR MORE DISTRICT MISSIONARIES.

Matter Is Referred to Committee Which Will Submit Recommendations to the General Association. Reports of Missionaries Received.

The quarterly meeting of the Executive Board of the West Virginia General Baptist Association was held at the First Baptist church in this city Wednesday. The meeting was not largely attended as usual but this is generally the case with the summer meeting.

The chief action taken by the board at the meeting was the declaration that the time is near at hand when one or more district missionaries should be appointed for the work in this state in addition to the stationed missionaries already employed and the appointment of a committee consisting of Revs. R. B. McDaniel, L. B. Moore and L. W. Holden to take the whole matter into consideration and present definite plans at the next meeting of the General Association at Charleston in October.

The reports of the twenty-five missionaries employed by the board were submitted and read. The missionaries altogether reported 243 weeks of labor done, 590 sermons preached, 293 prayer meeting talks made, 34 churches regularly supplied and 64 other outstations also supplied, 2,303 pastoral visits made, 145 additions to the membership of the church made and 11,438 miles traveled by them. These are the principal items of the reports.

Various routine business was transacted by the board in addition to this.

Those present at the meeting were Revs. L. B. Moore, R. B. McDaniel, L. W. Holden, W. J. Newton, of Clarksburg; Revs. M. A. Summers and J. S. Stamp, of Parkersburg; Rev. L. D. Hall, of Lost Creek; Rev. J. C. Cox, of Salem; Rev. J. W. Eddy, of Fairmont; and Rev. F. P. Baldwin, of Pleasant Mount. The meeting adjourned at three o'clock in the afternoon.

ELKINS OPTIONS COAL TRACT

United States Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, has obtained from the Merchants' Coal Co. of Baltimore, an option on 9,000 acres of coal land in Preston county, W. Va. The option will expire in about thirty days. In the meantime Senator Elkins is having the property examined by experts and a full report made to him of its capacity and future possibilities.

The mines in Preston county are only partially opened, nor is there any direct railroad outlet. Senator Elkins, however, has large coal interests around Morgantown, and it is believed he has in contemplation the building of a line of railroad from this point through Kingston and to tap the Preston county property, thence on to Belington, where a connection will be made with the West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh line. Such a route, it is said, would also connect with the Chesapeake & Ohio and thus give the product an outlet over that system as well as over the Wabash.

Senator Elkins is himself somewhat of an expert in West Virginia coal properties and owns vast tracts in various parts of the state. He is not averse to adding to these holdings, it is said, when the figures named promise a profit. Those who are familiar with his methods of dealing say it is unlikely he would seek an option unless he intended to take it up after a full examination.

Comes to Hospital

Mrs. E. Thatcher, of Weston, was brought to the Kessler hospital here Wednesday morning and admitted to receive treatment and undergo an operation for a serious illness.

R. R. Payne, of Dola, was brought to the same institution Tuesday evening and admitted for treatment. He has typhoid fever.

GUILD SOCIAL WAS DELIGHTFUL AFFAIR

A delightful time was afforded the large number who attended the birth date social given in Goff church edifice by the Bonafield Guild Tuesday evening. The object of the social was to raise funds for the education of a young lady in the mission school at Foo Chow, China, which is in charge of Miss Julia Bonafield, for whom the society was named. In fact this object is the reason for the existence of the society. Miss Bonafield is a graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan University and was a classmate of Rev. S. K. Arbuthnot, the pastor of the church.

Upon entering the church the guests were asked by ushers in what month of the year they were born and upon answering they were conducted to one of the twelve prettily decorated booths each in charge of a young lady and each representing a month of the year. There the guests gave the number of pennies corresponding to the month number of his birthday for the guild fund. In return for the donation pretty and appropriate souvenirs were given.

After the guests had assembled a musical and literary program was rendered which was heartily enjoyed. Those taking part in the program were Misses Mabel Fletcher and Iona Smith, who rendered a duet on the piano; Miss Blanch Hursey, who gave a vocal solo; Miss William Harris, who gave a reading; Misses Beulah Starcher and Laura Ash, who rendered piano solos; Miss Tensie Ash, who read, and Miss Genevieve Haymaker, who sang a solo. All of the numbers were of unusual excellence.

Following the program delicious refreshments consisting of salads and ices were served and a general social good time was enjoyed.

NORMAL REGENTS TO MEET HERE

The board of regents of the state normal schools will hold an adjourned meeting here tomorrow. Among the things to be considered will be the election of a principal for the state normal school at Fairmont, no one having been chosen for that place at the meeting recently held at Charleston.

MR. BENTLEY WILL SPEAK

Samuel R. Bentley, one of Clarksburg's prominent young men, will deliver an address Friday evening at the entertainment given by the Fourth department of the Epworth League of Goff M. E. church. Those who have heard Mr. Bentley will doubtless desire to hear him again, knowing that his address will be full of wit and humor. The public generally is invited to be present.

VIEWERS APPOINTED FOR BRIDGEPORT BRIDGE

The county court Wednesday appointed John C. Johnson, C. H. Warner and D. D. Britt viewers of a proposed bridge across Simpson creek in the town of Bridgeport. The court selected the grand jury list for the coming year and allowed a number of bills. The court has not yet laid the annual levy, the books of the assessors not having been returned as yet. A number of bills were allowed and Dr. C. W. Halterman has been appointed jail physician and Dr. Harvey V. Varner physician for the county infirmary.

MINE SUPERINTENDENTS HOLD MEETING

The Clarksburg Fuel Company held a superintendent's meeting in its offices here Tuesday night. General Superintendent J. C. Gaskill, of Fairmont, presided. All the mine foremen in this section were present. The condition of the mines and the outlook for operations were discussed.

John A. Crisp returned Wednesday from a business trip to Buckhannon and other points along the West Virginia & Pittsburgh division of the B. & O. railroad.

DENT-PICKENS LAWSUIT CELEBRATED AND ROMANTIC

**Ends After Being In all the Courts of
the Land for Nearly a Score of
Years in Favor of Plaintiff--Details
Constitute an Interesting Story
Which Thousands will Read.**

RIVAL STRIBBED ANOTHER TO DEATH

By Associated Press.

Wheeling, W. Va., July 12.—William Lotray was stabbed to death today by John Hawthorn, at Ashton, near here. The young men were rivals and the killing was done in the presence of a young woman who was innocent of the cause of the quarrel.

GENERAL STOESSEL UNDER ARREST

By Associated Press.

St. Petersburg, July 12.—It is reported that General Stoessel has been placed under arrest on account of the report of the commission investigating the defense of Port Arthur, also that Rear Admiral Kuger will leave the service on account of incapacity in handling the mutiny by the Kniaz Potemkine.

By Associated Press.

Sevastopol, July 12.—In pursuance of instructions from the Russian admiralty the Kniaz Potemkine is on her way here, having left Kustenji, Roumania, during the night in tow of the battleship Tcheme.

FATHER TRACEY CELEBRATES EVENT

Rev. Father John A. Tracey, pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, at St. Louis, who began as an acolyte at the Cathedral in Wheeling, W. Va., under Very Rev. John T. Sullivan, vicar general and Most Rev. J. J. Kain, celebrated the twenty-ninth anniversary of his ordination with special services in St. Louis yesterday.

Going to St. Louis with Archbishop Kain, Father Tracey soon was popularly known as the spiritual son of the archbishop. For some time prior to his promotion to his present charge, Father Tracey was assistant to Father Coyle at the old Cathedral of St. Louis. He is a warm friend of many base ball players and once was himself a base ball enthusiast. Father Tracey is well known in this city.

MEXICAN BILL IN HOSPITAL

Mexican Bill, whose right name is George Hooper, arrived on the afternoon train today from Richmond and went to a local hospital for treatment for injuries received in the battle between cowboys and railroad officers on the excursion to Richmond Sunday afternoon. It will be remembered he resisted the officers and was badly beaten up with maces. They brought him here but Deputy Sheriff John G. Lang took him to Webster Springs, where he was tried and fined five dollars. His condition is not serious.

BUILDING COLLAPSED KILLING TWO PERSONS

Baltimore, Md., July 12.—The Glenn building, a small office building, collapsed today, killing two persons and injuring one.

Sugar Reduced

New York, July 12.—All grades of refined sugar were reduced today ten cents on the hundred pounds.

In the year 1887, the family of Mr. James Pickens, of Barbour county, on Gnatty Creek, the richest portion of the county, both as respects the status of its people and the fertility of its soil, was made wealthy by the provisions of his will, executed in 1884, by handsome bequests of his personal estate, and by devices of his real estate in that section, which later comprised contiguous tracts, aggregating several thousand acres. Mr. Pickens had died on the 22nd day of January, 1887, and had been all his life a money making man and a large lender of money to his neighbors.

He was frugal, industrious, temperate and devoted to his family, which consisted of two sons, John D. Pickens, the elder, and Dever Pickens, the younger, the two being named in his will as qualifying as his executors in a bond in the penalty of \$50,000.00, and five daughters, viz: Margaret, the wife of N. D. Boring; Charity, the wife of A. H. Young; Mollie, the wife of L. Orau Martin; Emma, the wife of Samuel C. Walker and Jennie, afterwards the wife of John W. Stewart, and two grand-children, viz: Albert S. Pickens and May Pickens, afterwards the wife of Austin H. Davison, children of testator's deceased son, Alexander H. Pickens.

Under the provisions of the will each child and the two grand-children were to receive about \$14,000.00 in value in personality and realty, and the mother, Ann M. Pickens, whose maiden name was Dever, was to receive a handsome provision, which however, she afterwards renounced, and took of her husband's estate, under the law.

Of these devices, his son, Dever, who was then twenty-four years of age, took of realty two tracts of land, one of 360 acres and one of 36 3/4 acres, and by the will was estimated to have received in the value of the same the sum of \$2,000.00 more than each of the other distributees, which sum his father, the testator, by the will charged as a lien upon his land.

By the fourteenth clause of the will the testator divided the residuum of his estate equally between his said seven children and two grand-children.

The executors began to settle up the estate. Large collections were made, and each devisee took possession of his land. Two other tracts owned by Dever Pickens, of 87 acres and 130 poles, and 86 acres and 80 poles, which he had purchased, were sold from him for a balance of unpaid purchase money, and the surplus due to him arising from the sales was paid into the hands of the general receiver of the Circuit Court of Barbour county, under orders entered in the Chancery suits which had been brought to sell the same. This was due to notice of the proceedings pending in the suit between the plaintiff, Susan C. Dent and Dever Pickens, hereinafter referred to.

Just before the death of the testator, James Pickens, which, as before stated, occurred on the 22d day of January, 1887, a romance began: Miss Susan C. Dent just arriving at the age of twenty-one years, of Gilmer county, a daughter of Marmaduke and Elmira Dent, had been visiting the old Pickens' homestead. She was handsome, attractive and sympathetic, and had won her way to the affections of the members of the Pickens' family by attentions to them soon after the death of their father, which they seemed much to appreciate. The old story repeats itself. Dever Pickens lost his heart, and Miss Dent was ruined by it. "Twas the same old wretched story, which for ages bards have sung, Of a woman's wanton weakness, and a villain's lying tongue."

On the 9th day of January, 1888, to the utter surprise and consternation of both families, a child, afterwards named "Pickens' Debit," was clandestinely born, at the old Nutter Hotel, in Clarksburg. The mother (Continued on page 4.)